



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
Rm. 152 Federal Building • 100 Centennial Mall North • Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: (402) 437-5563 • Fax: (402) 437-5408 • TDY: (402) 437-5093 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne>

EMBARGOED UNTIL MAY 7, 2006

Janice Stopak (402) 423-9683
Al Klaasmeyer (402) 269-2011

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL HOSTS OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW CLINIC AND HOSPITAL ADDITION --USDA Rural Development Assists with \$2,560,000

SYRACUSE, Neb., May 7, 2006—Community Memorial Hospital held an open house today for their new medical clinic and hospital addition. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development presented a ceremonial check for nearly \$2.6 million to the hospital signifying USDA's investment in the medical project which will serve the rural residents of Otoe, Cass and Johnson counties.

"The completion of this project culminates almost four years in planning, development, and construction," stated Al Klaasmeyer, administrator for Community Memorial Hospital. "We appreciate USDA Rural Development making this project possible. Thanks are extended to Community Memorial Hospital, Inc., and the Community Memorial Hospital District board of directors for authorizing and taking a forward position on this project that will permit physicians, staff, patients and visitors to have greater convenience in accessing the clinic and hospital."

USDA funds constructed the 5,500 sq. ft. medical clinic, 4,600 sq. ft. hospital addition linking the clinic to the hospital, a maintenance building and additional parking. The clinic will house 4 doctor offices, 12 exam rooms, business offices, nurse stations, reception area, laboratory, storage and future office space. The linking addition will contain an expanded lab to include radiology, 3 specialty clinic rooms, administrator offices and a mechanical room. Maintenance building will house the ambulance, maintenance vehicle and equipment.

"The new clinic being located next to the hospital, instead of eight blocks away as the prior clinic was, will improve the operating efficiency for both the clinic and the critical access hospital," stated Janice Stopak, community programs specialist for USDA Rural Development. "Quality rural health care is a priority for USDA Rural Development and we take great pleasure in assisting in projects such as Community Memorial Hospital's."

USDA Rural Development's Community Facility Direct Loan program financed the medical project with a 30 year loan at 4.375 percent interest.

For additional information contact Janice Stopak at (402) 423-9683, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); 6030 S. 58th Suite B Lincoln, Neb. 68516. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

#

"USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity provider, employer and lender."
To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights,
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. 20250-9410
or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).